

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A device for accessing a telecommunication network comprising:

means for transmitting data flows between at least one first telecommunication client connected to said telecommunication network by means of an access network possessing throughput performances lower than said telecommunication network and at least one second telecommunication client accessible through said telecommunication network, said information flows being organised in sessions, each data flow of one and the same session providing communication between the same telecommunication clients; and

degradation means for degrading at least one quality parameter of at least one of said data flows in order to compensate for the difference in throughputs between the said telecommunication network and the said access network,

wherein said degradation means make use of a module associated with each session, for carrying out said degradation, said module being determined by said first client; and

said module relates to at least aan impact of a degradation of at least one quality parameter on the quality of at least one of said data flows.

2. (previously presented): An access device according to Claim 1, wherein said module principally consists of executable code allowing the degradation of the said at least one quality parameter.

3. (previously presented): An access device according to Claim 2, wherein said module is transmitted in the payload of an active packet transmitted by the said first client.

4. (previously presented): An access device according to Claim 2, wherein said module is downloaded from a code server and identified by an identifier contained in an active packet transmitted by the said first client.

5. (previously presented): An access device according to Claim 1, wherein said module principally consists of a set of tables giving the correspondence, for each data flow of said session, between the quality parameters and the impacts of a degradation of these quality parameters on the quality of said data flow.

6. (previously presented): An access device according to Claim 1, wherein said module principally consists of a set of mathematical expressions linking, for each data flow of the said session, the quality parameters and the impacts of a degradation of these quality parameters on the quality of the said data flow.

7. (previously presented): An access device according to Claim 1, wherein said first client determines said module in cooperation with an end user, in particular by means of configuration parameters.

8. (previously presented): An access device according to Claim 1, wherein said module consists of a set of policy rules supplied by a policy server.

9. (previously presented): An access device according to claim 8, wherein the communications with the policy server conform to the CORBA protocol.

10. (currently amended): A method for accessing data flows in a telecommunication network comprising:

transmitting data flows between at least one first telecommunication client connected to said telecommunication network via an access network possessing throughput performances lower than said telecommunication network and at least one second telecommunication client accessible through said telecommunication network, said information flows being organised in sessions, each data flow of one and the same session providing communication between the same telecommunication clients; and

degrading at least one quality parameter of at least one of said data flows in order to compensate for the difference in throughputs between the said telecommunication network and the said access network,

wherein said degrading step uses of a module associated with each session, for carrying out said degradation, said module being determined by said first client; and

said module relates to at least ana impact of a degradation of at least one quality parameter on the quality of at least one of said data flows.

11. (currently amended): A computer program stored in a tangible computer readable medium for accessing data flows in a telecommunication network comprising:

means for transmitting data flows between at least one first telecommunication client connected to said telecommunication network via an access network possessing throughput performances lower than said telecommunication network and at least one second telecommunication client accessible through said telecommunication network, said information flows being organised in sessions, each data flow of one and the same session providing communication between the same telecommunication clients; and

means for degrading at least one quality parameter of at least one of said data flows in order to compensate for the difference in throughputs between the said telecommunication network and the said access network,

wherein said degrading step uses of a module associated with each session, for carrying out said degradation, said module being determined by said first client; and

said module relates to at least ana impact of a degradation of at least one quality parameter on the quality of at least one of said data flows.